

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A reference time ts , which corresponds to a period of time a sheet S needs to move passed a detection position $P1$ where a sheet detection sensor 841 is disposed, is set in advance in accordance with the length of the sheet S . After a time $t1$ from the start of driving of a gate roller, as the leading edge of the sheet S transported to a nip area N which is between the heater roller 91 and a pressurizing roller 92 arrives at the detection position $P1$, an output from the sheet detection sensor 841 changes to an L -level. When the transportation of the sheet has been normal, the sensor output returns to an H -level after a reference time ts or a longer time. On the contrary, upon occurrence of a jam $J2$ that the sheet S has got wrapped around the heater roller 91, the leading edge of the sheet S moves backward, and therefore, a duration tm in which the sensor output is kept at the L -level becomes shorter than the reference time ts .

(Fig. 7)